

## **Executive Summary**

### **MONTANA LAND INFORMATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (MLIAC)**

**March 6, 2008**

#### **Members or Designees**

Robin Trenbeath—DOA/ITSD; Evan Hammer—DNRC, Lance Clampitt—USGS  
Mike Birtles—BLM, Annette Cabrera—Yellowstone County, Christiana Von Reichert—  
The University of Montana, Mike Bousliman—MDT, Rudy Cicon—MARLS  
Representative, Randy Wilke—DOR, Lorin Peterson—Tribal Representative, Janet Hess-  
Herbert for Chris Smith—FWP, Ed Madej—Tetra-Tech, Mike Sweet—MAGIP  
Representative, Darlene Staffeldt —MSL, Ken Wall—MAGIP Representative, Connie  
Eisinger—McCone County Commissioner, Art Pembroke—Lewis & Clark County

#### **Guests**

Cindy Mitchell—DOA/ITSD, Ted Chase—DOR, Mindy Cochran—Flathead County,  
Erin Geraghty—DOA/ITSD, Tom Marino—MSL, Kris Larsen—CDM/MAGIP, Bryant  
Ralston—ESRI, R.J. Zimmer—DJ&A, Gerry Daumiller—MSL, Sibyl Govan—MSL,  
Jenny Stapp—MSL, Nat Carter—DEQ, Chris Stump—DEQ, Michael Fashoway—  
DOA/ITSD, Linda Vance—UM Natural Heritage Program

#### **Approval of December Executive Summary **\*\*Action Item\*****

The executive summary from December was accepted as presented.

#### **Base Map Service Center and Federated Technology – Robin Trenbeath**

Robin thanked the council and the people they represent for their comments on the white papers. The white papers are our vision; they are neither a tactical plan nor a strategic plan. Robin reminded the group that there are 3 legs of this “stool”.

1. The Base Map Service Center concept
2. The Technical concept
3. The Funding concept

Robin is currently working on the Funding concept which will be submitted for comment to the Council when finished. Robin also listed several areas where the partnerships outlined in the Base Map Service Center and Technical concepts are working including imagery stewardship, funding and technical considerations with the MSL.

After a discussion on the need to move forward with MSDI stewardship issues, Janet Hess-Herbert recommended establishing a process to review the current 13 MSDI themes and stewardships, including theme steward and lead assignments, the number of themes, and sub-themes for any given layer. Robin and Stu agreed to act as coordinators for this endeavor.

### **MLIA FY 2009 Grant Application Status—Stu Kirkpatrick**

Stu reports there were 19 grants submitted with a total dollar value over 900 hundred thousand dollars. The sub-committee will be evaluating the grants and putting together a scoring matrix within the next two months.

Community awareness of the MLIA grants was discussed and Art Pembroke felt that outreach needed to be more proactive. Robin and Stu will go back through the rules. There was a general agreement that the 30 day window for getting the grants applications back is too short and the question was asked “can we adjust the timeframe” for the grant process? Darlene told the group that the process to change the rule takes a **minimum** of 3 months. Robin reminded the group that it would be unlikely that anything can be changed for next year, so we should think ahead and plan to distribute the grant information as soon as possible. Connie Eisinger noted that she is on the MACO conference planning committee and can assist with the Council being put on their agenda.

### **MAGIP/GIO Funding Brainstorm Report—Robin Trenbeath and Doug Burreson**

Doug and Robin provided the Council with a report on the facilitated GIS Funding Brainstorming Session held in February. The brainstorm session was designed to include representation from many diverse sectors; 2 federal government, 9 state government, 3 local government and 3 private sector. The group produced broad range thoughts and ideas on funding sources. The general categories included:

- Indirect taxes on GIS beneficiaries
- Direct taxes (MLIA)
- Earned income (transaction fees)
- Diverting existing sources to GIS

The facilitator prepared a workshop summary which Robin and Doug have reviewed and released to the workshop attendees. Robin is also working on a funding action plan (as noted earlier).

### **Montana Geospatial Portal Progress--Sibyl Govan (presentation)**

Sibyl noted the primary purpose of a Montana Geospatial Portal is to expand GIS data sharing opportunities among public and private entities. Her presentation outlined the project objectives, members of the project team and steering committee, the short and

long-term visions and the current status. Copies of the presentation will be made available upon request.

### **MAGIP Issues - Doug Burreson**

Mike Sweet reported on the status of the MAGIP Intermountain GIS Conference to be held April 7 - 11 in Missoula. More information is on their website at: [www.magip.org](http://www.magip.org). Doug Burreson gave the Council some final thoughts as outgoing MAGIP President and introduced Kris Larson, incoming President

### **New Business**

#### **GNIS Update - Mike Sweet and Lance Clampitt**

Mike and Lance distributed a handout regarding the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS). Status of a USGS grant to the National Center for Landscape Fire Analysis was described as:

- A document has been compiled on the policy side that looks at Montana geographic names, principles and policies
- The data evaluation and the data model as a package to be vetted amongst the professional community

A formal proposal asking for MSDI Framework status for GNIS is expected in June or September, depending on the timing and the will of the committee to move in that direction

#### **Follow-up on Boundary Issues/HB 49 - Stu Kirkpatrick**

HB49 proposes consolidation of statute concerning special district procedures and is being driven by MACO and the League of Cities and Towns. Robin Trenbeath and Erin Geraghty are monitoring progress in hopes that some standardization of boundary descriptions, recordation and mapping can be included.

#### **GCDB Enhancement Status - Stu Kirkpatrick**

Stu provided a map of Geographic Coordinated Data Base (GCDB) enhancement projects and a status report of projects completed and projects underway. The handout will be posted on the web as an ARC Server project under the MSDI Cadastral theme page.

#### **Flathead Addressing Grant Status - Annette Cabrera**

Mindy Cochrane, GIS program manger for Flathead County, gave a status report of their MLIA Addressing Grant Project. Functional requirements were developed and successful loading of disparate county address data from Flathead, Yellowstone and Missoula was successful. However, the project team temporarily suspended project work on January 31, 2008. Flathead County is requesting an extension of the grant to June 30, 2009 so they can work with the stakeholders of both the addressing and transportation

data models, and ultimately develop an interface that will meet the goals of the original grant application and the transportation data model. The original grant termination date was September 1, 2008.

Robin commended the group for their responsible approach to the product and the process. Robin's suggested that Flathead County and the grant working group provide a detailed discussion and recommendation to the current grant sub-committee and they make a recommendation to him for consideration. He will make a decision based on the requirements and the recommendation. Council agreed with this approach.

### **ESRI ELA Status - Robin Trenbeath**

The ELA is being routed for signature and Memos of Understanding with state agencies should be in the mail this week. (With the subsequent change of the Department of Administration's attorney, the signatory process was delayed until May).

### **Height Modernization Update - Mike Bousliman/RJ Zimmer**

Height Modernization (HM) is a program through the National Geodetic Survey, under NOAA, whose primary goal is to improve elevation information through better geodetic control. Montana has been trying to obtain HM funding to reach program goals for a variety of projects, i.e. continuously operating reference stations, leveling projects for better elevation data on control points in some of the more populated areas and a Geodetic Reference Center. Montana should hear by the end of June if we receive grant funding. The primary contact is Bryce Larson/MDT/Mapping & Survey Supervisor.

### **NSGIC Midyear Meeting - Robin Trenbeath**

Robin and Stu will be leaving Saturday morning for Washington, D.C. for the midyear meeting. They have meetings scheduled with both Senator's staff, related to the possibility of obtaining funding for a master addressing effort.

### **MACO Mid-Winter Conference Presentation - Robin Trenbeath**

Robin gave a presentation to the attendees on several items including the MLIAC, the MLIA grant process, future plans for a GIS Federation, and long-term spatial funding issues.

### **Public comment**

Mike Sweet commented that the City of Missoula is going to recollect imagery in 2010, which coincides with the NAIP. Further, he asked about the status of the Imagery for the Nation proposal. A more general discussion of the status of the NAIP program followed, with the consensus being that Montana will be recollected in 2010. MSL and ITSD are working together with state agency directors on budgeting for this collection, but estimate that it will take a \$1,000,000 match to insure a 2010 NAIP program.

FGDC has announced their CAP grants; Linda Vance from the Heritage Program received a grant to help implement national vegetation data standards

Because Sibyl Govan has accepted another position and is leaving MSL, Darlene Staffeldt announced that Jennie Stapp will be moving into the position of the MSL CIO, and Gerry Daumiller was appointed as the MSL NRIS Manager.

The next meeting is scheduled on June 5 which is the same date as the state Information Technology Board (ITB). Robin has to attend that meeting; therefore, is requesting a date change for MLIA Council so the next MLIA Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 12, 2008. (Subsequently, the ITB meeting was moved to June 12, 2008 and an announcement was emailed to all MLIA Council members moving the next meeting back to the original date of June 5, 2008.)

Meeting adjourned 2:25